

that the Skin of the Silver Fox is one of the most valuable Furs, and at the annual sale of the Hudson's Bay Company, varies in price, sometimes bringing as high as twenty-five or thirty guineas, so that an idea of their profits may be formed when we consider the amount of their original cost. How much the condition of these poor creatures might be improved under the influence of *free trade*."

At page 198, speaking of the Esquimaux westward of the Mackenzie River, he says—"I trust the day is not far distant when the light of civilisation will dawn upon this poor, benighted, but intelligent race of beings; for it is deplorable to think that there exists in the Queen's dominions people, so utterly neglected as they have been, without an effort having ever been made by the rulers of their land (Hudson's Bay Company) to ameliorate their condition, or remove them from a state of heathen darkness. But where monopoly exists, progress is arrested; and it is to be hoped the wisdom of our legislature will, ere long, destroy the one and promote the other, and thus develop the resources of their country to the permanent advancement and happiness of its inhabitants."

At page 341, he continues—"It is quite deplorable to think of so fine a race as they were represented to be, being so utterly neglected, and existing in a state of such abject heathenism; more particularly when we find the southern boundary of their country within twenty-five miles of the Northern limit of the extensive territories of that Company (Hudson's Bay), who obtained, and still hold, a charter granted to them; *that they might be the means of promoting commerce and advancing civilization amongst these wild, but interesting people*. How far they have succeeded in the former, they probably can tell; but how they have neglected the latter, we have seen."

Now, after what has been stated of some of the proceedings of this Company, what is the result?—Finding their plea for a renewal of the Charter untenable, they now talk of compensation!—Compensation for what?—Is it for allowing them the undisturbed possession of a Charter that was not only illegal from the first, but the conditions of which